Spud leafhopper has returned

In 1981 the potato leafhopper caused an estimated $5 million loss to Virginia alfalfa producers.

We are advised that this insect that overwinters in the gulf states has made its way back to Virginia and in some fields the population is heavy. We may be in for another bad year.

Alfalfa cut three weeks ago has made excellent regrowth and is approaching the second cutting. There should be no problem on this because of advanced growth. Fields that have been cut in the past 10 days are extremely vulnerable to leafhopper damage.

New planted seedings of alfalfa are particularly susceptible and will likely need treatment.

The only method we have to determine when to apply a pesticide is by using a sweepnet. Two considerations are used--the leafhopper population level and the height of the alfalfa plant.

It would appear that in order to effectively determine whether pesticide application is necessary is to purchase a heavy duty, 15" diameter sweepnet with heavy muslin net material. Costs range from $15.00 to $20.00.

The problem with potato leafhoppers is that they suck on the plant, inject an enzyme which causes that plant to stop growing.

We plan to hold some demonstrations on how to use a sweepnet and how to make a determination on whether to spray.

* * *

Rainfall over the past 3 to 4 weeks has varied widely. The official for the county shows: 4.96 inches in March, 2.8 inches in April, 2.31 in May 3.77 through June 11.

Since May 20 we have had 6.01 inches.

Earlier there were long periods of dry weather. March had 22 days, April 19 days and May 17 days with no rain.

* * *

Most of the crop herbicides need to be applied before weed germination. There are real problems in many tobacco, corn and soybean fields. Nothing but steel (plow or hoe) will bring the weeds under control.

* * *

Woodpeckers, sapsuckers, flickers will occasionally do serious damage to buildings. Shooting woodpeckers may be a solution, but it's against the law. The woodpecker is protected by Federal law. If shooting is a last resort, a Federal permit must be obtained from a Federal Game Warden (special agent). We can provide name and phone number.

A netting, such as used on fruits to prevent bird damage, can be hung along the edge of building being damaged and is very effective. We could help provide a source if this control method is selected.

FOURTH GRADERS at Pamplin Elementary School wind the May pole at recent May Day festivities.

PES students celebrate

The Pamplin Elementary School students presented their May Day program for parents and friends of the school on Friday, May 7.

The kindergarten students entertained with "Hey, Betty Martin," and the first grade gave an exhibition with rhythm instruments to "The March of the Clowns."

The second graders did a folk dance; the third grade, a special presentation of "Marching to Pretoria." The fifth grade performed a set of aerobic exercises which they had choreographed to a disco tune.

The sixth graders did a square dance, and the fourth grade class wound the maypole for a "grand finale." The program was planned and presented by Mrs. Nancy Williams, physical education instructor, and Mrs. Karen Gibson, music specialist, with help from the classroom teachers.

On May 28, a Field Day was held for the entire student body under the direction of the physical education instructor, Mrs. Williams.

Each class was divided into two teams, which competed against each other at each grade level. The children ran relays, dashes, wheelbarrow and three-legged races; completed an obstacle course, a bean bag throw and the standing broad jump.

After all results were computed, each team had won in three classrooms, with a tie between the two sixth grade teams.

Over twenty parents and patrons were recruited by the PTA to help with the activities and make the field day a huge success. The PTA also provided a special participation ribbon for each child.

Happiness is 4-H

By Frank Sweet
Extension Agent

The new swimming pool at Holiday Lake 4-H Center will be dedicated this Saturday, June 19, in a special ceremony at 2:00 p.m. A number of special guests will be on hand for the dedication ceremony.

* * *

Friday of this week will be the last day to apply to attend 4-H Camp at Holiday Lake. Appomattox 4-H'ers will attend camp during the week of July 5-9. Approximately 160 4-H'ers have currently signed up for camp this year.

* * *

4-H'ers planting a dark tobacco crop this year still may sign up for the 4-H Dark Fired Tobacco program. This special program is sponsored by the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Commission who provides special awards for the 4-H'ers participating. In order to participate in the tobacco growers program, the 4-H'er must have between three-tenths of an acre and one acre of dark tobacco. The 4-H'ers tobacco may be a designated portion of a larger field. The purpose of the program is to help young people gain an appreciation for growing quality tobacco.

* * *

The first 4-H sewing classes will be held at ACHS during the week of June 28-July 2. A number of volunteer leaders will be assisting with the teaching of the classes. 4-H'ers who are interested may sign up by calling the Extension Office at 352-8244. Future sewing classes will be taught in Pamplin, Oakville and Stonewall.

* * *

State 4-H Congress is held on the VPI & SU Campus next week. This statewide event is a highlight for Senior 4-H'ers during the year. Statewide competition in judging programs, presentations, Share-the-Fun, Public Speaking and host of other programs are held during the week.

Twenty-five Appomattox 4-H'ers will participate in this year's Congress program.

OES chapter to meet

Appomattox Chapter #10, Order of The Eastern Star will hold its regular stated meeting on Monday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapter room.

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Soils judges prepare

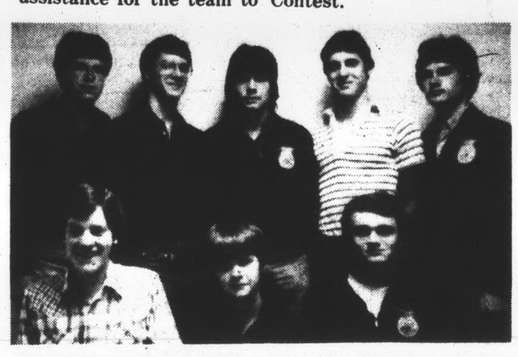
Appomattox's 4-H Soil Judging Team composed of Richard Conner, Darrell Conner and Kenneth McClenny prepare for the upcoming State Soils Contest by examining soils near the Appomattox Historical Park. In 4-H Soils Judging, members learn to determine soil texture and structure, as well as the most intensive agricultural use that can be made of the land without serious loss of topsoil due to erosion and other factors. The 4-H'ers also learn the importance of soil conservation practices such as sod waterways, diversion ditches, strip cropping, no till planting and contour plowing.

Members of the soil judging team also learn to interpret the soil factors that influence home building, septic drain fields, lawns and gardesn, ponds or lagoons and intensive recreational uses.

Mr. R. E. McClenny, Jr., Soil Conservationist, has assisted with the coaching of the 4-H Soils team and the Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District has provided financial assistance for the team to Contest.

RICHARD CONNER, DARRELL CONNER, and Kenneth McClenny, Appomattox's 4-H Soil Judging Team are busy preparing for the upcoming State Soils contest.

participate in the State



FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA from Appomattox County High School receiving the State FFA Convention this week include (from left) front row - - Jim Hix, Dale Baldwin, Warren Baldwin; back row - - Jerry Scruggs, Jimmy Gilliam, Wayne Phelps, Tommy Gilliam, Ben Martin.

CRAIG RANSON [left] is shown with Joe Hazelgrove who is presenting Craig with check for $75.00.

Craig Ranson honored

Craig Ranson, 12 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie G. Ranson of Route 1, Pamplin was recognized recently by the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Growers Association for his work in the 4-H Dark Fired Tobacco Program. Mr. Joe Hazelgrove, Chairman of the Dark Tobacco Growers Association is shown presenting Craig with a check for $75.00.

Craig assisted his family in planting, raising, harvesting, curing and marketing 3½ acres of dark tobacco last summer. Craig also kept accurate records on his expenses and receipts for this crop of one acre.

The 4-H Dark Fired Tobacco Program is sponsored by the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Commission. The program is open to all 4-H members in counties where dark tobacco is grown. The 4-H'er is required to raise from a minimum of three-tenths of an acre to a maximum of one acre of dark tobacco.

Interested 4-H'ers may contact the Extension Office in their particular county and ask for the 4-H Dark Fired Tobacco Project. The purpose of the program is to help young people develop an interest and appreciation for growing quality tobacco.

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1 ONLY	1500-4 WD-20 HP DIESEL TRACTOR SOLD	$52	6167.00	SAVE 1195.
1 ONLY	1700-4WD-25 HP DIESEL TRACTOR W/P.S SOLD	$6738	7545.00	SAVE 1193.
1 ONLY	3600-40 HP-DIESEL TRACTOR W/P.S.&Diff.LK.	$13,079	10795.00	SAVE 2284.
1 ONLY	4610 AP-52HP DIESEL P.S., DIFF. LK.,REM.VALVE	$17,862	15238.00	SAVE 2624.
1 ONLY	4610 SU-52 HP DIESEL P.S., DIFF. LK., REM. VALVE	$17,084	14567.00	SAVE 2517
1 ONLY	TW 20-135 HP DIESEL W/CAB-FULLY EQUIPPED	$45,526	37300.00	SAVE 8226.
1 ONLY	545 T-L-B-14' HOE	$33,444	24444.00	SAVE 9000.
1 ONLY	532 BALER W/CHUTE EXT. & WAGON HITCH	$4850	3500.00	SAVE 1350.
2	505 - 7 FT. MOWER	$2070	1665.00	SAVE 405.
1 ONLY	FORD 513 PULL TYPE RA SOLD	$2549	1938.00	SAVE 611.
2	FORD 309-2 ROW CORN PLANTER W/FERT. BOX	$1755	1295.00	SAVE 460.
1 ONLY	FORD 101-2-14" PLOW SPRING TRIP	$1348	1100.00	SAVE 248.
1 ONLY	FORD 110 - 1-16" W/SOD CUTTER & GUAGE WH.	$575	500.00	SAVE 75.
1 ONLY	FORD 101-3-14" PLOW SPRING TRIP	$1750	1275.00	SAVE 475.
1 ONLY	FORD 150-3-16" PLOW AUTO-RESET BEAMS	$3420	2400.00	SAVE 1020.